out of the grants released during 1995-96 and 1999-2000. The State Govt. has been requested to furnish the utilization certificate so that their proposal could be considered.

Adverse Effect of Economic Recession on Computer Education

†1128. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether computer education has been adversely affected as a result of recession in the area of Information Technology; and

(b) if so, the efforts being made by Government to provide aid to concerned agencies to check the decline in computer education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) No adverse effect of the recession in the area of Information technology has been felt on computer education in the country so far.

Drop-outs among girls

1129. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding percentage of drop-outs among the girl students in the country at various stages of school education, State-wise; and

(b) what steps Government have taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI RITA VERMA]: (a) State-wise details regarding percentage of dropouts among the girl students in the country at various stages of school education are given in the enclosed Statement. (*See* below)

(b) The following steps have been taken by the Government to check the drop out rates of the girl students in the country at various stages of school education:—

(i) Monitoring attendance by the community where macro initiatives for girls' education have been taken up;

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.